

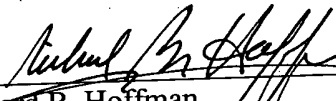
REMARKS

The claims have now been reviewed and amended to conform to U.S. practice, but have not been narrowed. The specification has been amended to delete references to claims and given headings. No new matter has been added and the abstract has been corrected to conform to U.S. practice.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: September 10, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Richard B. Hoffman
Registration No.: 26,910
MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP
233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300
Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
(312) 474-6300
Attorney for Applicant